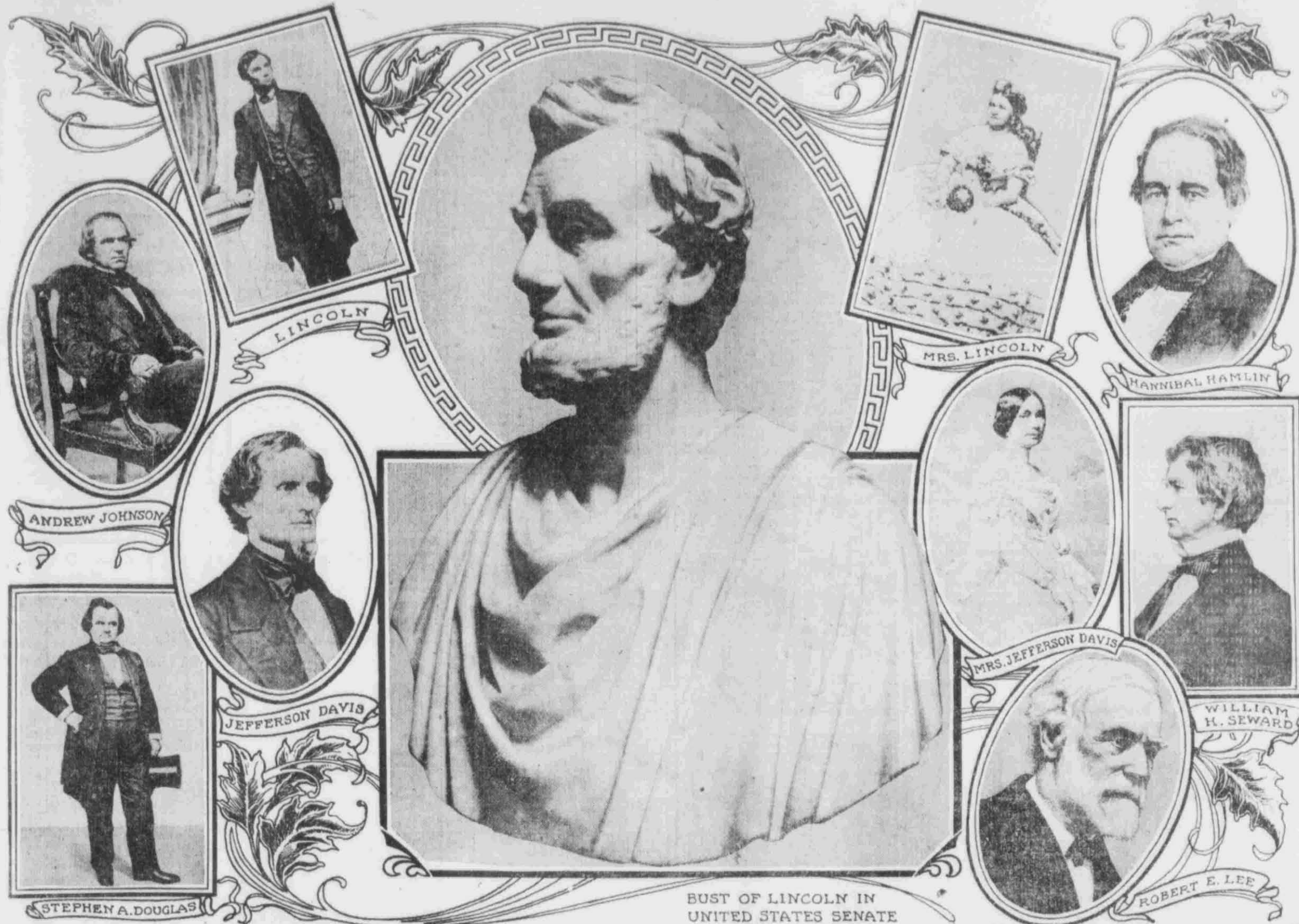


LINCOLN AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES



BUST OF LINCOLN IN UNITED STATES SENATE

MOST of the notable people who lived in the time of Lincoln when he was passing through his trials and tribulations survived him. They lived to hear his name glorified by a grateful country and to see the work which he began well on its way.

Stephen A. Douglas, the first to measure hands with the country lawyer, died a few months after he had held the hat of Lincoln when the latter was inaugurated president. But the others whose names will be recalled in the observance of the Lincoln centennial, Feb. 12, lived to share in the honors bestowed by the nation on its first martyr.

Some of these, now gathered to the fathers, were Hannibal Hamlin, vice president of the administration; William H. Seward, rival candidate in the

convention that named Lincoln, chosen later by Lincoln as his premier; Salmon P. Chase of the cabinet that met on so many dark days in the country's history, afterward of the supreme bench; Charles Sumner, to whose giant intellect Lincoln was an unending study; George Bancroft, the historian, who watched the times and recorded what took place; John M. Palmer, commissioned from Illinois for the field by Lincoln; Leonard Sweet, counselor and friend; Norman B. Judd, whom Lincoln loved; Shelby M. Cullom, who saw Lincoln entombed; Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, militant in his hours when he needed strength; Julia Ward Howe, who became inspired when Lincoln sent

out his appeal for more help from the people. All lived to mourn his death. Andrew Johnson, vice president in the second administration of Lincoln, had scarcely taken his place before the fatal shot fired in Ford's theater called him to the White House. While opinion is divided and always will be as to Johnson's administration, it is conceded by conservative politicians that in the first stages of his administration Johnson endeavored to follow Lincoln's policy.

Mrs. Lincoln, who was a part in that life which was not open to all, grieved for him for years and passed away not entirely conscious of what he was or what she had been to him. One child of the household grew to manhood and has been honored by his father's country. Robert Lincoln, one

time the nation's representative at St. James, is still living in the city where his great father was nominated for president.

On the other side the leading spirits who opposed Lincoln and gave him such concern that he carried with him more signs of sorrow than sunshine lived to see his triumph. Jefferson Davis, the president of the Southern Confederacy, did not die until 1889, twenty-eight years after Lincoln was dead. Mrs. Davis, who was the social head of the Confederacy, a brilliant woman, has been dead only a few years. Robert E. Lee, the great captain of the cause that was lost, did not pass away until after he had seen peace return to the land and witnessed the dawn of that prosperity of which the south is a beneficiary. The great

head and heart which did so much to bring about what the others lived to see and enjoy were hurried away at the moment when their work was done.

It is interesting at this time to recall some of the incidents that occurred between Lincoln and his contemporaries.

As Douglas was the first eminent man with whom Lincoln came before the public, Lincoln's first impression of the "Little Giant" is worth retelling even at this distant day. Lincoln had been elected to the Illinois legislature. He wore a new suit, something unusual with him at that time. When he arrived at the state capital he mingled with the crowd. Among the men who were pointed out to him was a young man who had recently come into the

community from Vermont. The young man was "making himself noticed," and this attracted the attention of the backwoods legislator. He inquired who the sprig was and was told that he was Stephen A. Douglas. After Lincoln had heard Douglas talk in the crowd he said, "He is the best man I have ever seen." Subsequent events changed Lincoln's view to some extent, but the fact remained that in debate Lincoln always worsted his adversaries.

No man in the administration gave Mr. Lincoln more concern than Stanton. They never understood each other, notwithstanding Stanton's peculiar fitness for the place he held in the cabinet. First impressions are frequently misleading, and nearly always they leave some sort of scar

Lincoln and Stanton met for the first time in Cincinnati in 1857. It was in a lawsuit. Both were on the same side. The client was a resident of Chicago, and he knew Lincoln. Stanton represented the eastern interests of the client. When the time came to submit argument Lincoln and Stanton conferred as to who should have the honor. By a rule of the bar Lincoln had precedence. As a matter of course he asked Stanton if he would not prefer to make the argument, and, much to the surprise of Lincoln, Stanton accepted. The incident caused Lincoln to have a "case of blues," and as he was leaving town he said to his hostess, "I hope I shall never see Cincinnati again." Stanton had said to a brother lawyer that Lincoln was a "long, lank, croaking toad from Illinois, wearing a dirty linen duster for a coat, on the back of which the perspiration had splashed wide stains that resembled a map of the continent." Lincoln heard of the remark after he returned home. For some time he was more melancholy than usual. His business increased, Stanton was his secretary of war.

Forming the First Cabinet.

It will interest new politicians to know that Mr. Lincoln was in favor of giving the south a place in his cabinet. He named three who would be acceptable to him. These were Holt of Virginia, Stephens of Georgia and Maynard of Tennessee. If he could have had his way, what untold sorrow might have been avoided! He could not bring himself to believe that the south would attempt to overthrow the government.

Finally the cabinet was framed. There is authority for the statement that it was largely the work of Lincoln himself. Probably no presidential cabinet was ever constructed under such difficulties. It is a curious political fact that the cabinet as originally framed was subjected to only two changes. The "called" were not assigned to any portfolio. That was to be an after consideration. The names selected were Seward, Bates, Dayton, Judd, Chase, Blair and Welles.

Seward the Premier.

Necessarily the president and Secretary Seward were much more frequently in conference than were the other members. It was no news to the east when the story was on its legs that Seward was to be de facto president. Whether Seward ever aspired to such an attitude is not certainly known, but he ever did it in the opinion of politicians that he modified his intentions.

Magnanimous to Chase.

The magnanimity of President Lincoln to Chase stands as an evidence that Lincoln knew how to forgive. As is well known, Chase in his ambition to be president had criticized the administration of which he was a part. When the time came to appoint a successor to Chief Justice Taney, Senator Sumner and other friends of Chase asked that Chase be made chief justice. The president listened; then he told the senator and his party all that he had heard about the criticisms of Chase. The party left the White House feeling that their mission had failed. The next day the name of Chase was sent to the senate, and he was confirmed as chief justice.

The adolescent in politics is reminded that Daniel Webster and Abraham Lincoln were in congress at the same time, the former in the upper house, the latter in the lower branch, representing a district in the southern part of Illinois. Lincoln was only an "aye" and "nay" factor in the house, but when he went to his hotel and tilted his long figure on a chair against the wall and told "reminders" he always had an audience. One of his most appreciative listeners was that "lion" in the north, somebody so aptly called the great senator from Massachusetts.

FRANK H. BROOKS.

Samuel Gompers and His Battles For Labor; Traits and Home Life of the Leader

SINCE the conviction and sentence of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, John Mitchell, vice president, and Frank P. Sullivan, secretary, in December, 1907, refusing to heed the injunction of the federal court in the case of the Buck's Stove and Range company, the federation made its first move in the matter early in the month of January of the current year.

The sentences imposed by Justice Wright of the supreme court of the District of Columbia were twelve months in jail for Gompers, nine for Mitchell and six for Morrison. The sentence was for contempt of court in violating the order enjoining the defendants from placing on the "unfair" or "we don't patronize" list the Buck's Stove and Range company of St. Louis.

The defendants took an appeal and were released under bonds. Six months will elapse before the case is passed upon by the court of appeals. If the sentence is upheld by that court the case may be taken to the supreme court of the United States. Cases take their turn in the courts of the District of Columbia just as they do elsewhere, so that Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison will not be hurried in their preparations for jail, even if the last court should decide against them.

The sentence has attracted more than ordinary attention. The history of the case is interesting. There are two stages in the litigation—first, the proceedings to enjoin the boycott produced by the Federation of Labor against the Buck's Stove company; second, the proceedings to enforce that injunction by punishing the defendants for contempt of court in violating it.

The facts in the first stage as interpreted by the decision of Justice Wright are these: The Federation of Labor pronounced a boycott against the Buck's Stove company in March, 1907, and published its name in the "unfair" list and the "we don't patronize" list of its officers.

It proceeded in addition to prevent tradesmen from buying the Buck's stoves and ranges and to prevent individual customers from buying of tradesmen who dealt in the stoves and ranges of the Buck's company.

Suit was brought to enjoin them from continuing the boycott. No injunction in this suit was issued until after a hearing. It was then issued by Judge Gould of the supreme court of the District of Columbia on the ground that such a boycott was in itself a violation of law. Since Judge Gould's decision was rendered the supreme court of the United States has decided unanimously that boycott is also a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, because it is an action in restraint of trade.

The injunction was issued Dec. 22, 1907. The interim was occupied by Mr. Gompers in printing and mailing copies of a pamphlet in which the Buck's Stove company appeared on the "unfair" list, the object being, it is alleged, to get the copies into the mail before the injunction was issued. The more distant copies did not reach their destination until after the injunction was issued. Judge Wright holds that, although mailed before the injunction, by mailing them Mr. Gompers violated the injunction.

In his decision Justice Wright on this point said: "The mails were his (Gompers') agents, chosen by him as the medium for delivering to distant points, and if, after the injunction became operative, he violated it through the instrumentality of his own hands or through the instrumentality of another medium of his own preference is all one."

There are other instances of violation with which the defendants are charged, but the two mentioned above constitute the charges upon which the defendants were sentenced.

Appeal Decided by Council.

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor met in Washington Jan. 12 and discussed the situa-

tion. Mr. Gompers made a comprehensive statement covering the period from the close of the convention of the Federation of Labor held at Denver in November, 1908. Dealing with the decision of Justice Wright, Mr. Gompers said: "We have practically ex-

hausted all of our available funds. The money in the defense fund under article 13 of the constitution of the federation is absolutely unavailable, not even if we desired, and I take it that we have no desire to touch one dollar—aye, even one penny—of that

fund for any purpose other than that for which the members of our directly affiliated local unions have paid it."

The council at once decided that an appeal for funds to press the case in the interests of the defendants should be made. Judge Alton B. Parker was

instructed to begin the preparation of the appeal.

Samuel Gompers is an interesting figure any way he is considered. He has been the president of the American Federation of Labor twenty-five years of its twenty-six years of exist-

ence. He is thus the head of more than 2,000,000 union men in this country. He was born in London Jan. 27, 1850. As a boy he began as a cigar-maker. He helped organize the Cigar-makers' International union. His home is in Washington. The family comprises his wife, daughter, married son and one unmarried. It is a united household. When Mr. Gompers is absent, as he is most of the time, his married son is the head of the family. The daughter is a young woman of beauty and is on the stage as a concert singer. She has a well trained voice and has been successful. Mrs. Gompers is a loyal supporter of the interests which her husband represents.

The Man and the Leader.

The leader of the great federation is optimistic in his ideas concerning organized labor here. In a recent interview on this point he said: "Labor conditions now are better by far than they were three decades ago. In the future they will be just as much better in proportion. By combination of capital, by new inventions and a better organization of material forces, we shall, age by age and year by year, reduce the amount of manual labor required to the minimum and at the same time advance the reward therefor to the maximum."

The secret of Mr. Gompers' success in his work lies in the fact that he is devoted to it. He has been offered office which would have paid him more than he ever can expect to get where he is and which would have given him more time to himself and his family. He has declined every offer. He has taken into his home a man whom he could trust—no one else. He himself would not be swayed from the cause of labor by any present or future employment. He owns no real estate, no bonds, no carriages or automobiles. He does not abstain from these luxuries on account of any false pride, but because he has no time to indulge in such matters. He believes that the comfort of his people should come first.

AMOR FOX.



MRS. SAMUEL GOMPERS.



MISS SADIE JULIAN GOMPERS.



SAMUEL GOMPERS.

BUDGET OF FACTS.

Electro magnets have been recommended for use in lifting and handling large masses of glass. This is accomplished by placing a piece of sheet iron under the glass and applying one or more electro magnets on the upper face of the glass. The electro magnets

attract the sheet iron and thereby hold the glass suspended while moving.

When sulphur is burnt in oxygen at atmospheric pressure about 2.76 per cent is converted into sulphur dioxide, and when burnt in air two and

a half times as much, say 7 per cent, of the sulphur forms trioxide.

The progress of languages spoken by different nations is said to be as follows: English, which at the commencement of the last century was spoken by only 20,000,000 people, is now spoken by 100,000,000. Russian is now spoken by 69,000,000 against 20,

000,000 at the same period. In 1801 German was spoken by only 25,000,000 people; today over 70,000,000 talk in the same language that William II. does. Spanish is now used by 44,000,000 people against 30,000,000 in 1800; Italian by 22,000,000 instead of 18,000,000; Portuguese by 13,000,000 instead of 1,000,000. In the case of

French the increase has been from 34,000,000 to 48,000,000, or 36 per cent. The latest engine of warfare is a specially designed motor car which the German military authorities have produced for making war on airships. This motor car is well armored and yet has sufficient speed to enable it to follow up a dirigible balloon in a

much better style than horse artillery. Its great feature, however, is a new gun, which can be tilted up to an angle of seventy degrees and which discharges twenty-four shots a minute.

Celestine steel is a poor conductor of heat and electricity, but it is claimed for it that it can be filed, bored, chisel-

ed, polished like metal, etched and painted on or otherwise decorated like glass and porcelain.

Every square mile of the ocean has a population of 15,000,000 fish. Of the diseases in America 25 per cent are said to be caused by tradesmen wrapping up provisions in unclean newspaper.